Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ World History

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Reading 2.7: Feudalism**

**Mills, pp. 144 - 147**

**Pre-Reading:** Video clip about Feudalism.

1. There is a quotation at the very, very beginning of the chapter on p. 144. The English translation is below:

“The labour of the clerk is to pray to God, of the knight to do justice, and the labourer finds their bread. One provides food, one prays and one defends. In the field, the town, and the church these three help each other with their services in a well-ordered scheme.”

* 1. It mentions a “clerk”, a “knight”, and a “labourer” and how each of these roles provides something to society. According to the passage, what do you think a labourer provides? What do you think a knight provides? What do you think a clerk provides? (Note: a **clerk** is a member of the clergy.)

1. The first main paragraph on p. 144 says “Another medieval writer described society as resembling the human body.” Why do you think medieval society was described this way?
2. In your own words, what was feudalism? (You may wish to look at the 2nd paragraph on p. 144 that extends to the top of p. 146.)
3. What was a *fief*?
4. What was a *vassal*?

1. What services were vassals expected to provide to their lords?
2. What was “paying homage”? Why was this ceremony such a big deal? (see pp 146-147)